



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **NOSE, Masaki**

Group Art Unit: **2624**

Serial No.: **09/736,317**

Examiner: **James A. Thompson**

Filed: **December 15, 2000**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 8718

**FOR: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, IMAGE PROCESSOR, AND STORAGE MEDIUM THEREOF**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 15, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action or a Notice of Allowance. A check is attached hereto which covers the \$ 180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the

documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,  
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP

*Darren R. Crew*

Darren R. Crew  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 37,806

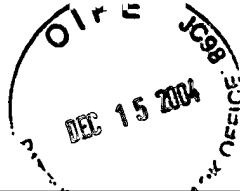
DRC/llf  
Atty. Docket No. **001628**  
Suite 1000  
1725 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 659-2930



**23850**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449 and references (2)  
Check for \$ 180.00



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449</b>	Atty. Docket No. 001628	Serial No. 09/736,317
	Applicant(s): NOSE, Masaki	
	Filing Date: December 15, 2000	Group Art Unit: 2624

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AF		
_____	AG		
_____	AH		
_____	AI		
_____	AJ		

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

_____	AK	Reiner ESCHBACH; "Reduction of artifacts in error diffusion by means of input-dependent weights"; Journal of Electronic Imaging; Vol. 2(4); October 1993; pp. 352-358.
_____	AL	Yasuhiko KISHIMOTO et al; "Improved error diffusion modified with AM/FM periodic noise"; IS&Ts NIP 15; 1999; pp 366-369.
Examiner _____ Date Considered _____		